

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 02520 311312Z

ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3317

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: XK, OGEN, NU

SUBJECT: REGIONAL POLITICAL OFFICERS MEETING

REF: (A) MANAGUA 2249, (B) MARTIN-BOVA LETTER APRIL 22

1. RESPONSES TO REF A INDICATE THAT PROPOSED REGIONAL POLOFF CONFERENCE DURING JULY 7-8 CAN BE ATTENDED BY ALL POLOFFS OF REGION WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF MAISTO IN SAN JOSE AND TAYLOR IN PANAMA. ATTENDING WOULD BE DEPARTING AND ARRIVING POLOFFS IN GUATEMALA, EISNER FROM ROCAP, AND POLOFFS FOR EL SALVADOR, HONDURAS, NICARAGUA AND POSSIBLY BELIZE.

2. AGENDA (REF B) WOULD BE A. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY AND PRACTICE, B. CHANGE SIN THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE RELATIONSHIP, C. DIVERSIFICATION OF EXTRA-REGIONAL TIES, D. THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRATIC PLURALISM, E. INSURGENCY AND TERRORISM, F. CHURCH-STATE RELATIONS, G. REGIONAL PROBLEMS; E.G., BELIZE, EL SALVADOR-HONDURAS BORDER DISPUTE, H. REGIONAL US POLICY PLANNING.

3. THE JULY DATES HAVE BEEN PROPOSED AS THE LAST CHANCE TO DRAW ON THE BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE OF SOME POLOFFS DUE FOR TRANSFER THIS SUMMER. THIS EMBASSY BELIEVES MUCH MORE WILL BE GAINED BY DRAWING ON EXPERTISE OF PRESENT POLOFFS THAN WAITING UNTIL REPLACEMENTS HAVE SUFFICIENT EXPERIENCE TO BE ABLE TO MAKE AN INFORMED CONTRIBUTION, I.E., TOWARDS THE END OF THE YEAR. JULY DATES ALSO

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OFFER CEN DIRECTOR MATTHEWS AN EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO MEET REGIONAL POLITICAL REPORTERS AND DRAW ON THEIR EXPERIENCE. EMB UNDERTAKES TO PREPARE A RECORD OF THE MEETING WHICH WOULD SERVE AS A BRIEFING DOCUMENT FOR NEW POLOFFS COMING LATER INTO REGIONAL POL SECTIONS.

4. EMB WOULD APPRECIATE GREEN LIGHT FOR PROPOSED MEETING FROM DEPT AND INDICATION WHETHER MATTHEWS WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND.

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